

Gabriel Rothwell, flumine ( 0045-1), photograph



**Gabriel Rothwell** Emerging Professional, Photography Wilmington

A graduate of Delaware College of Art and Design and Pratt Institute, Gabriel Rothwell currently teaches art and photography at Tower Hill School and is a photography instructor in the Delaware College of Art and Design degree program. He served as assistant to Kennett Square, Pa., metal sculptor Stan Smokler for five years and briefly worked in the same capacity for a professional photographer. The artist has also worked with metal in the fabrication of furniture and large-scale artworks. His photography has been exhibited at Colourworks in Wilmington, Perkins Center for the Arts in Moorestown, N.J., and at Pratt Institute in the 2006 juried alumni show. In addition, he has been a juror for the Delaware Photographic Society. His previous body of work, a series of nighttime city landscapes was created with a traditional camera. Currently, he is working with a pinhole camera he constructed.

Photography is a meditative practice, capable of producing images that are windows to new realities. I strive to see with the equality that film treats all light, to view the entire frame with intensity.

Working with a camera of my own design, I am given the freedom to let go of meticulous technical control. I am not able to see what I am photographing; I am forced to trust my camera. Exposures ranging from two to 45 minutes are required to produce a good negative.

[My] ongoing project, titled "flumine," has been developing over the past five years. I am presently exploring options for the final presentation.

I aspire to be fully present with my subject as I make the exposure. My subjects, small streams, are constantly in flux: they become raging torrents; they slow to a trickle; volume fluctuates. But their movement is constant and cyclical. Long exposures allow this movement to become solid. Water becomes organic glass sculpture, disappears; light splits and refracts off its surface; it becomes vapor. Only through time does this occur, and only through photography is this made visible, made "real."

Rothwell's work will be on exhibit March 2-30 at Colourworks gallery, 1902 Superfine Lane, Wilmington, 428-0222; and in October in the Delaware Division of the Arts Mezzanine Gallery.